

2006

PATENT

DK-US040868

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :  
Yukimasa YANO :  
Serial No.: New – (National Phase of :  
PCT/JP2004/013408) :  
International filing date: September 15, 2004 :  
For: AIR-CONDITIONING OUTDOOR UNIT, :  
AIR CONDITIONER, AND COMPRESSOR :  
UNIT (AS AMENDED) :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with MPEP 609 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant brings the references listed on the attached PTO-1449-Form to the Examiner's attention and request that they be considered and made of record in this application. Copies of the non-U.S. patents are attached.

Japanese Laid Open Publication No 2-4376 appears to disclose an air conditioner with a flexible pipe.

Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 2-43017 appears to disclose a pipe for air conditioner. This invention discloses a flexible pipe located where four-way valve and heat exchanging unit connect perpendicularly.

Japanese Laid Open Publication No. 4-31501 appears to disclose a freezer cycle pipe connection having flexible reinforcement material.

National Phase of PCT/JP2004/013408  
International filing date: September 15, 2004

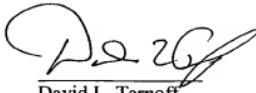
10572512

Page 2 of 2

\* \* APR20 RECEIVED 03 17 MAR 2006

Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Tarnoff  
Reg. No. 32,383

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP

1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700

Washington, DC 20036

(202)-293-0444

Dated: 3-17-06

G:\03-MAR06-KK\DK-US040868 IDS.doc

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO		Complete If Known	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		<b>Application Number</b>	PCT/JP2004/013408
		<b>Filing Date</b>	September 15, 2004
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Yukimasa YANO
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	10152512
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	DK-US040868
(use as many sheets as necessary)			
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature	/William Tapolcai/	Date Considered	03/04/2008
-----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	------------

**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments or the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.